

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0129

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC, NPG
SUBJECT: NPG-JANUARY 10 STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: STATE 4534 (DTG 081625Z JAN 77)

SUMMARY: AT JANUARY 10 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP DISCUSSED
DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON NPG FUTURE WORK PRIORITIES. IS IS
PREPARING A REVISED DRAFT WHICH WE WILL FORWARD TO WASHINGTON.
US REP CIRCULATED US SUGGESTIONS FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE
(TOR) FOR THE NPG STUDY OF MARITIME NUCLEAR WARFARE. TURKISH
REP ASKED WHETHER CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE (CBO) REPORT
COVERING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE COULD BE PROVIDED TO NPG
MEMBERS. SEVERAL MEMBERS ASKED WHEN US WOULD CIRCULATE
FIRST DRAFT OF PHASE III PAPER. ACTION REQUESTED:
WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON (1) PROVISION OF CBO REPORT TO
NPG MEMBERS, AND (2) EXPECTED DATE OF CIRCULATION OF THE
DRAFT PHASE III PAPER. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JANUARY 10 MEETING, STAFF GROUP CONTINUED
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DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON FUTURE WORK
PRIORITIES (NPG(STAFF GROUP)WP(76)9). US (WOODWORTH)
AND SEVERAL OTHER REPS OFFERED VARIOUS SUGGESTED
CHANGES DESIGNED TO SHORTEN AND REORGANIZE THE
PAPER. THE IS IS INCORPORATING THESE CHANGES INTO
A REVISED DRAFT, WHICH WE WILL TRANSMIT TO WASHING-
TO. THE REVISED DRAFT WILL BE A STOCK-TAKING PAPER
SUMMARIZING ON-GOING AND NEW WORK LEADING UP TO THE
JUNE 1977 MINISTERIAL MEETING, AND CITING SOME
ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS OF INTEREST THAT MIGHT FIGURE

IN THE NPG'S FUTURE WORK PROGRAM.

2. DURING DISCUSSION OF DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT, FRG REP (MERKL) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES, IN ADDITION TO THE PRINCIPAL AREAS OF ON-GOING WORK, E.G., PHASE III, TECHNOLOGY STUDY, HAD PARTICULAR INTEREST IN FURTHER DISCUSSION OF SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING, PERHAPS VIA A SACEUR REPORT AT THE FALL NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING, AND OF THE POTENTIAL ROLE AND VALUE OF CRUISE MISSILES, WHICH THEY HOPED NPG PERMREPS COULD DISCUSS BEFORE THE JUNE NPG MINISTERIAL. HE SAID HIS AUTHORITIES ALSO WELCOMED NETHERLANDS SUGGESTION FOR A REVIEW OF THE 1974 STUDY OF WARSAW PACT STRATEGY AND DOCTRINE, AND BELIEVED THAT A DANISH SUGGESTION CONCERNING PREPARATION OF A COMPILATION OF DEFINITIONS OF NUCLEAR PLANNING TERMINOLOGY MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE IS. UK REP (LEGGE) SAID HE DOUBTED VALUE OF A REVIEW OF THE 1974 WARSAW PACT STUDY, SINCE HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY BASIC CHANGES IN NATO ESTIMATES IN THIS AREA. CHAIRMAN (SHEARER) STRONGLY DISCOURAGED THE DANISH SUGGESTION, NOTING THE DIFFICULTIES OF WORKING OUT AGREED DEFINITIONS OF TERMINOLOGY, AND PARTICULARLY WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF NPG MEMBERS.

3. US REP DISTRIBUTED US SUGGESTIONS FOR TOR FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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THE NPG STUDY OF MARITIME NUCLEAR WARFARE (REF A). HE EXPLAINED STEPS US WAS TAKING TO INTRODUCE US SUGGESTIONS TO NATO AUTHORITIES (PARA 3, REF A), AND PROPOSED THAT STAFF GROUP TAKE UP DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE TOR AS SOON AS INPUTS FROM NMAS WERE AVAILABLE. COMMENT: WE EXPECT NMA INPUTS TO BE AVAILABLE DURING WEEK OF JANUARY 17 AND, PRIOR TO THEN, WILL DRAW ON GUIDANCE IN PARA 2, REF A, IN RESPONDING TO ANY GENERAL QUESTIONS THAT STAFF GROUP MEMBERS MIGHT RAISE. END COMMENT.

4. TURKISH REP (OZCERI) CALLED ATTENTION TO ARTICLE IN JANUARY 10 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE ON THE CBO REPORT COVERING SUBJECT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE. HE ASKED WHETHER US COULD PROVIDE COPIES OF THE CBO REPORT TO NPG MEMBERS. US REP SAID HE WOULD QUERY HIS AUTHORITIES. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THE CBO REPORT IS UNCLASSIFIED; IF SO, WE ASSUME THERE WOULD BE NO OBSTACLES TO PROVIDING COPIES TO NPG MEMBERS. JUDGING FROM IHT ARTICLE, IT WOULD APPEAR DESIREABLE TO MAKE APPROPRIATE DISCLAIMERS IF WE PROVIDE THE CBO REPORT TO NPG MEMBERS. WHETHER RELEASABLE IN NATO OR NOT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE CBO REPORT. END COMMENT. ACTION REQUESTED:

WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.

5. CHAIRMAN AND SEVERAL STAFF GROUP MEMBERS ASKED WHEN US WOULD CIRCULATE FIRST DRAFT OF THE PHASE III PAPER, NOTING HIGH INTEREST IN CAPITALS AND DESIRE-ABILITY OF MAKING PROGRESS ON THIS PROJECT. US REP SAID THE DRAFT WAS UNDER PREPARATION AND THAT HE WOULD TRY TO GET A READING ON WHEN IT WOULD BE READY FOR CIRCULATION. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.STRAUSZ-HUPE

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